

PHILADELPHIA ITEMS.

We are having some very oppressive weather, intense heat and great humidity. Such a compound tends to make city life very unpleasant. Nearly all such as can at all afford it, flee either to the mountains or sea coast; often at an awful sacrifice of spiritual life, and sometimes at the cost of the soul. In this particular we are having a

BLESSING IN DISGUISE.

Being too poor to go where there are more comfortable conditions for the flesh, we are compelled to stay at home and are thereby enabled to maintain, at least, if not improve, our spiritual condition. There has been no abatement of interest in our church work this summer. Our spiritual thermometer has been keeping pace with the physical, especially so in our week-night services. Owing to the death of Dr. McGregor's infant child he was called East, and spent several weeks very pleasantly among us. The Dr.'s. avoirdupois, mental, and spiritual power has not decreased since we had last met him. He preached two Sunday evenings, the last time to a full house.

During the last two months we have had W. A. Cramer, a returned missionary from the Congo, and Carrie B. Bates from India with us. They both gave us much interesting and valuable information; they are both persons of very marked consecration, their love for degraded humanity is intense; akin to the love of Christ, in whom they *live, move, and have their being*, taking Him for their Savior, sanctifier and healer, though exposed to and sometimes affected with the diseases of those inglenial climes, they use no physician but Jesus, and no medicine except the Holy Spirit. Our contact with those holy, consecrated children of God has placed us at great disadvantage before God, it has shown us our insignificance as we have perhaps never seen it before, but it has also stirred our souls to greater diligence, and will result in some aggressive missionary movement among us. I trust not only in Philadelphia, but throughout the church.

ERRORS.

If the little mistakes of our lives will cause as much havoc in our hopes and expectations for a future world, as the little letter x does in my article entitled, "The Seven-fold Promise of Christ," there will be a disappointed crowd some day. It makes me say, "The eternal world is however not the chief thing to overcome," where I meant to say the **EXTERNAL**. The error is repeated in the next phrase. I do not know whether it is

typographical or not. Be that as it may, the reader will please notice the correction.

JACOB C. CASSEL.

Aug. 8, 1896.

REPORT FROM MILLEDGEVILLE CHURCH.

Our Children's Day service was held on July 26, and was a most decided success in every particular, and spoke well for the untiring efforts of sister Pearl McPherson, and the teachers who assisted her in training and drilling the children. Altogether the exercises were most beautiful, and could not but have been beneficial to the many little ones taking part in them. The program was rendered to a packed house of interested parents and friends.

On the evening of July 30, the brethren met in business session, and decided to retain Brother Talley as pastor for the coming year. The Milledgeville church know a good pastor when they have him, and are wise in sticking to him.

On July 16, we laid to rest our brother, James Hodge, who passed away after a long and painful illness. Brother Hodge was a charter member of the Brethren church at this place, and was highly esteemed by all. He was patient in all his suffering, and our loss will be his gain. The bereaved family have the sympathy of all.

We have not as yet elected our delegates to the National Convention, but a business meeting will be called for that purpose soon. No one who has the welfare of the church at heart can be indifferent to the work of our Conventions, and we hope that there will be a large representation. Our S. S. work is moving on splendidly; so also is all the departments of the church work. The K. C. is booming under the efficient management of sister Gibbons, and her band of willing workers.

Merril Hawkins, one of our King's Children, has been sick of typhoid fever for several weeks, but is now recovering.

Our S. S. C. E., is always busily engaged in good work.

Our King's Children number about ninety-five members, exclusive of the Juniors who have about fifty members.

The average attendance in our S. S. for the last quarter, was one hundred and seventeen.

Attendance at all our church services is good, notwithstanding the hot weather. This church has not missed a weekly prayer-meeting since Brother Talley has been pastor of it, unless other meetings of importance were to take its place. Bad weather does not count for much when people are in earnest for the work of Christ.

ELLEN GNAGEV.

FAMILY GOVERNMENT.

The question which the brethren were discussing in the prayer-meeting was that of family government, says the Interior. There are always those in the home who believe in the rod, and a good deal of it; and those who believe in kisses and bonbons, and nothing else. "I may as well confess," said the pastor, "that the best lesson I ever had in family training I got from a puppy. One of my friends had given to me a young setter of good blood, but no education, and I undertook to make out of that bit of wigglesome flesh on four cushioned feet something of value in the field. He was not a promising subject for the lover of a gun, for the moment he would hear gunpowder he took to his heels and hid under the barn. He had a good deal more interest in an old rubber boot than he had in a pinnated grouse, and the only living thing he cared to hunt was the family cat, while of that pursuit he never wearied. But as I finally used a revolver for his dinner bell, he soon got over his shyness about a gun; and as I never laughed when I gave him an order and never failed to reward him when he obeyed it, it was not long before he was the most valuable dog in the county.

"Some of you," continued the preacher, have attended these shows of trained animals. Get the trainer to give you his experience and it will be worth more than the average book upon family government. Any creature of ordinary intelligence can be taught to do wonders, and love the trainer, too, if the training be conducted with infinite patience, immovable firmness and unvarying kindness. without these three graces you may as well give up your horse, your setter or your boy." That reminded us of what we heard a famous horse breaker say years ago as he was handling a beautiful animal that had been given up as incorrigible: "I can make any horse do anything I ask him to do; but I can't give any other man the brains to break a horse unless he knows how to govern and control himself first."

A child of ordinary capacity and destitute of property, but converted to God in childhood, is frequently worth more to the church than ten wealthy men converted at the noon of life.—Dr. John Todd.

There is nothing so trustworthy as the word of God. That which it discloses of God's nature, God's purposes, of man's duty, of man's destiny, is absolutely true, and shall find its fulfillment beyond all question. Heaven earth shall pass away, but God's word shall stand forever.